

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

When a first access from an external apparatus occurs to an intelligent interconnecting device and the external apparatus is authenticated in authentication processing based on a TCP/IP protocol in the intelligent interconnecting device, the intelligent interconnecting device stores therein a source IP address of the external apparatus (steps S114, S116, S118, S120). When an access from an external apparatus occurs thereafter, a response to the access is permitted only when a source IP address of the external apparatus giving the access is identical with the source IP address stored in advance (steps S104, S106).

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